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Hiroshi Adachi

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EXAMINER

POTTER, ROY KARL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2822

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1 – 9, 15-16, 19-22 and 31 in the reply filed on Aug 19/2005 is acknowledged.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eguchi et al..

Eguchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5712,507, discloses a semiconductor device mounted on a die pad. As shown in Figure 4, the lead frame 11 has multiple stages formed by slits in a die pad 11a. A plurality of leads 11b surround the stages and the stages are interconnected by areas between the slits that have elastically deforming abilities.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 15 – 16 and 19 – 20 are allowed.

In regard to claim 15 and 16, the prior art does not teach or suggest the recited lead frame with stages having a plurality of projecting elements.

In regard to claims 19 – 20, the prior art does not disclose that the interconnecting members have bent portions.

Claims 2 and 4 – 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Conclusion**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yamaguchi, U.S. Patent No. 6,081,029 discloses a lead frame with improved reliability.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roy K. Potter whose telephone number is 571 272 1842. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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